

## **REAP Conservation Education Program 2015 Grants (FY16)**

A total of 11 conservation education grants were awarded for the May 2015 grant round, with awards totaling \$177,381. Approximately \$617,267 was leveraged through in cash and in-kind contributions through these projects. Another \$15,750 was awarded to the University of Northern Iowa to assist and monitor implementation of CEP grants over a six-month period. A total of 13 projects were not funded, totaling \$250,754.

### ***Mini-Grants (May)***

#### **Gilmore City Community Rain Garden Education & Demonstration Project**

**City of Gilmore City--\$3,465 (#16-07)**

**Contact: [Margo Underwood](#); 641-420-3896**

The purpose of the Community Rain Garden Education Project is to design a community rain garden education and demonstration project in Gilmore City's Sunset Park, which will be the first in this community to showcase best management practices for reducing and sustainably managing runoff and helping protect water quality.

#### **Environmental Film Series**

**Clarke University of Dubuque--\$3,500 (#16-06)**

**Contact: [Andrea Bixler](#); 563-588-6616**

Clarke University will implement an Environmental Film Series which includes viewing of five environmental films on various topics, follow-up discussions, and calls to action. The series will end with the opportunity for middle school, high school and college students to create and present their own film for public viewing.

#### **Educator Workshop for the Development of an Assessment Framework for Student Learning in an Environmental Stewardship Project Southeast Polk Community Schools--\$2,478 (#16-05)**

**Contact: [James Pifer](#); 515-957-3421 x1018**

The team will develop an assessment framework to measure student learning produced by an environmental stewardship project. Furthermore, they will map student learning with science and engineering standards set forth in the Iowa Core and NGSS.

#### **Lucas County Big Day of Birding Tourism of Lucas County--\$3,500 (#16-02)**

**Contact: [Kris Patrick](#), 641-774-4059**

Tourism of Lucas County will organize a big day of birding in to identify as many species of birds in 24 hours as possible; compile a single bird list to compare species that have been previously identified; and raise awareness of local birding opportunities and bird conservation.

#### **Webster County Forever Shooting Sports Webster County Conservation--\$3,342 (#16-04)**

**Contact: [Erin Ford](#), 515-576-4258**

FOREVER Shooting Sports Program is a youth development program that teaches the safe handling of firearms and archery equipment while at the same time developing positive life skills through the firearm and archery disciplines, and introducing youth and their families to outdoor recreation and wildlife conservation. This program is an investment to developing future leaders in wildlife conservation, conservation supporters, wildlife professionals, and sportsmen and women.

**2015 Women, Food and Agricultural Network Annual Conference Scholarships**

**Women, Food and Agriculture Network—\$3,500 (#16-03)**

**Contact:** [Leigh Adcock](#); 515-450-3591

CEP grant funds will provide conference scholarships for women farmers and landowners who wish to protect and build pollinator habitat on their land.

***Standard Grant Applications—May***

**Landowner Options: Fresh Outreach to Landowners on Permanent Land Protection**

**Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation--\$29,000 (#16-08)**

**Contact:** Anita O’Gara; 515-288-1846

The Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation will update web materials and landowner stories to reach more landowners in Iowa with the land conservation message.

**Friends of Lakeside Lab – Young Investigators**

**Nature Connections--\$49,967 (#16-09)**

**Contact:** [Lisa Roti](#); 712-337-3669, ext. 1

Young Investigators addresses the need in Iowa for a sustainable, nature based, high-quality professional development training for early childhood educators. YI uses the Project Approach, a child-centered teaching method, to inspire students to love learning and to develop life-long, healthy connections with nature.

**Helping Students to Protect the Environment and Live Well**

**University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy & Environmental Education--\$33,054 (#16-11)**

**Contact:** [Susan Salterberg](#); 319-337-4816

Through four courses, UNI CEEE will energize 70 educators about consuming differently and living well. They then will engage 2,450 K-12 students in natural resources, product lifecycles activities and in community engagement projects. CEEE will introduce resources to 625 pre- and in-service educators through presentations, e-newsletters and a website, inspiring additional outreach.

**Reclaim Your Holidays**

**University of Northern Iowa Center for Energy & Environmental Education--\$5,481 (#16-12)**

**Contact:** [Carole Yates](#); 319-273-7599

RYH trainers will share ideas, help develop a pilot RYH Farmers Market event, and use RYH e-newsletter resources to help Iowans consume products in resourceful ways, consume products that are environmentally friendly, and focus on what's meaningful to them during the holidays.

**Upper Iowa University - SOIL – The Earth Beneath Our Feet**

**Upper Iowa University--\$40,449 (#16-10)**

**Contact:** [Barb Ehlers](#); 563-425-5322

The goal of this project is to improve educators’ environmental knowledge and instructional strategies using the theme, SOIL: The Earth Beneath Our Feet by planning and implementing two graduate level courses.

**Assist and Monitor the Implementation of REAP CEP Grants--\$15,750**

**University of Northern Iowa (#16-01)**

**Contact:** [Tolif Hunt](#); 319-273-3025

Over a 6-month period, the UNI Center for Energy & Environmental Education will assist and monitor the implementation of CEP grants\* with a goal to assure they are completed as approved by the CEP Board. The CEEE will also assist grantees in determination and reporting of grant outputs and knowledge and behavior changes, and facilitate the marketing of CEP grant results to other educators who could benefit from them and to other audiences who should know about the work of the CEP Board. *\*The exception will be grant(s) awarded to the to the UNI staff member who fills this role; the DNR will monitor those grant(s).*